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Carson Condemns Statement on Outsourcing

Congressman Carson Decries Callousness of Pro- Outsourcing Statement

For Immediate Release

13 February 2004

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Washington, D.C. – Congressman Brad Carson (D-OK) announced his outrage today at the statement made by Gregory Mankiw, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors, earlier this week where he said that outsourcing was “probably a plus for the economy.” Upon hearing this statement, Congressman Carson called it “simply another example of the callousness of D.C. bureaucrats who don’t understand or care about the very real problems faced by the people of Oklahoma.”

In addressing the outsourcing trend, Carson said “I cannot in good conscience support or encourage the actions of companies that send valuable jobs overseas simply to save a dollar.” In the past four years, Oklahoma has seen almost 100 companies lay off 100 or more employees or close completely. The numbers increase significantly when layoffs affecting 50 or more people are taken into account. Since 1999 over 500 companies in Oklahoma have executed mass layoffs each affecting 50 or more people. Currently there are over 84,000 jobless Oklahomans looking for work. “Now we are facing an ever-widening threat as more and more companies begin to move not only manufacturing, but also white collar jobs overseas,” said Carson.

“To say it is a good thing for companies to send Oklahoma jobs overseas is completely unconscionable. Too many Oklahoma jobs are being sent to Mexico, China, the Phillipines and other developing countries,” continued Carson. “This amounts to nothing more than an exportation of America, and we must work to change this trend. In order to protect our workforce we must encourage companies to increase their exports of American goods, not American jobs. However, there is currently a proposal before

Congress that would do exactly the opposite, by giving U.S. based companies over \$40 billion dollars in tax breaks for their off-shore operations.”

“Right now Oklahoma is hemorrhaging manufacturing jobs that pay a good wage and provide good benefits and replacing them with service sector jobs that pay lower wages and often offer minimal benefits,” stated Carson “The challenge is not simply to create jobs but to create good jobs that pay a decent wage. And I will continue to fight to protect Oklahomans from the harmful practice of outsourcing.”